

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of interconnecting cables on opposite sides of a panel, the method comprising:

(a) attaching a first cable that extends from a first side of an opening in the panel to a support member, said support member having at least one through opening that is used to attach said first cable to said support member;

(b) connecting a second cable that extends from a second side of said opening in the panel to said first cable;

(c) securing said support member in a fixed position, relative to said opening, that results in said attachment of said first cable to said support member to be on one of said first and second sides of said opening in the panel; and

(d) maintaining said first cable attached to said support member.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein (c) includes attaching a portion of said support member to one side of said opening in the panel.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said attaching a portion of said support member includes attaching a portion of said support member that is free of said attachment of said first cable to said support member to one side of said opening in the panel.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said attaching a portion of said support member includes attaching said portion to said second side of said opening in the panel.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said attaching a portion of said support member includes attaching a peripheral edge of a bracket integral with said support member to the panel on one said of said opening.

6. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising attaching a cover over one side of said opening in the panel.

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein said attaching a cover includes attaching a cover having an offset portion with one of said cables extending between said offset portion and said opening in the panel.

8. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein (a) includes directly attaching said first cable to said support member.

9. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein (a) includes attaching said first cable to one side of said support member and (b) includes attaching said second cable to said first cable from an opposite side of said support member.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising attaching a connector having opposite first and second ends to said at least one through opening in said support member and wherein (a) includes attaching said first cable to said first end of said connector and (b) includes attaching said second cable to said second end of said connector thereby interconnecting said second cable to said first cable.

11. (cancelled)

12. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising performing (c) prior to performing (b).

13. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~performing (c)~~ securing said support member in a fixed position relative to said opening prior to performing (a).

14. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein (a) comprises attaching said first cable to a plate.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein (a) and (b) comprise connecting ~~electrical~~ said first and second cables in electrical communication with one another.

16. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the panel is a panel in a mobile platform.

17. (original) The method of claim 16, wherein said mobile platform is an aircraft.

18. (currently amended) A method of interconnecting electrical cables on opposite sides of an opening in a panel, the method comprising:

(a) connecting a first cable on one side of the opening in the panel to a second cable on an opposite side of the opening; and

(b) securing a cover plate over at least a portion of the opening in the panel with one of said cables passing through an access opening formed by an offset portion of the cover plate that extends along an edge of the cover plate.

19. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein (a) includes securing an end portion of said first cable to a first member that is operable to retain said end portion of said first cable on one of said sides of the opening in the panel.

20. (original) The method of claim 19, wherein (a) includes attaching said first member to one side of the opening in the panel.

21. (original) The method of claim 20, wherein (a) includes attaching said first member to a same side of the opening in the panel as said end portion of said first cable is retained.

22. (original) The method of claim 19, wherein (a) further includes securing said end portion of said first cable to an opening in said first member.

23. (original) The method of claim 19, wherein (a) further includes:
attaching a connector to said first member;
attaching said end portion of said first cable to one end of said
connector; and
attaching an end portion of said second cable to another end of
said connector thereby interconnecting said first and second cables to one
another.

24. (withdrawn) The method of claim 19, wherein (a) includes directly
connecting said end portion of said first cable to said first member.

25. (original) The method of claim 19, wherein (a) further includes
maintaining said end portion of said first cable secured to said first member.

26. (currently amended) The method of claim 18, wherein (a)
comprises connecting ~~electrical~~ said first and second cables in electrical
communication with one another.

27. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein the panel is a panel
in a mobile platform.

28. (original) The method of claim 27, wherein said mobile platform
is an aircraft.

29. (currently amended) A method of interconnecting electrical cables on opposite sides of a panel of an aircraft, the method comprising:

(a) attaching a first electrical cable that extends from a first side of an opening in the panel of the aircraft to one side of a support member;

(b) connecting a second electrical cable that extends from a second side of said opening in the panel of the aircraft to said first cable from an opposite side of said support member so that said first and second cables are electrically conductively connected to one another;

(c) securing said support member in a fixed position that results in said attachment of said first cable to said support member to be on one of said first and second sides of said opening in the panel of the aircraft; and

(d) maintaining said first cable attached to said support member.

30. (currently amended) The method of claim 29, ~~wherein (c) is performed~~ further comprising securing said support member in a fixed position prior to any of performing (a) and (b).

31. (withdrawn) The method of claim 29, wherein (a) includes directly attaching said first cable to said support member.

32. (cancelled)

33. (currently amended) The method of claim 29, wherein (a) includes attaching said first cable to [[an]] a through opening in said support member.

34. (original) The method of claim 29, further comprising performing (c) prior to performing (b).

35. (currently amended) A method of supporting a cable passing through an opening in a panel, the method comprising:

(a) attaching a first cable that extends from a first side of an opening in the panel to a support member;

(b) securing said support member in a fixed position that results in said attachment of said first cable to said support member to be on one of said first and second sides of said opening in the panel at a point closely adjacent to the opening; [[and]]

(c) maintaining said first cable attached to said support member[.]; and

(d) connecting a second cable that extends from a second side of the opening in the panel to said first cable so that said first and second cables are connected to one another on a same side of said support member.

36. (original) The method of claim 35, wherein (b) includes securing said support member so that said attachment of said first cable to said support member is on said second side of the opening in the panel.

37. (cancelled)

38. (new) The method of claim 1, wherein said support member includes a generally planar portion through which said at least one through opening extends.

39. (new) The method of claim 29, wherein said support member includes a generally flat planar plate portion and (a) includes attaching said first cable to said plate portion.

40. (new) The method of claim 35, wherein said support member includes a generally flat planar portion and said first and second cables are connected together adjacent said planar portion.